

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR AND HOUSING**

August 2019

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**STAFF:**

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

\*Committee member for a portion of the session

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*CARRIED OVER*..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature  
*CON RES XXX*..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses  
*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

***Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing***

This bill provides that a full-time employee of a school administrative unit is entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family medical leave and may not be required to use sick or other kinds of leave for the birth of the employee's child or the employee's domestic partner's child or for the placement of a child 16 years of age or less with the employee or the employee's domestic partner in connection with the adoption of the child by the employee or the employee's domestic partner. The bill also provides that the employer and employee may negotiate whether leave is taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule.

**LD 467      An Act To Amend the Eligibility Criteria for Creditable Service in the Armed Forces of the United States under the State Retirement System      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PEOPLES A SANBORN L	OTP-AM ONTP	H-550

This bill amends the state retirement system laws governing creditable service for service in the United States Armed Forces to provide credit for service during operations in Lebanon, August 21, 1982, to February 26, 1984; operations in Grenada, October 25, 1983, to December 15, 1983; and operations in Panama, December 21, 1989, to February 13, 1990.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-550)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over on the Special Appropriations Table to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 473      An Act To Allow Flexibility in Residential Rental Agreements      Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ARATA A	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill repeals the limit on security deposits on residential rental units.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-150)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes the bill and replaces it with a provision specifying that the limit on security deposits on residential rental units does not apply to prepaid rent.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 480      An Act To Ensure Pay Transparency and To Reduce Gender and Racial Wage Inequities      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D EVANGELOS J	ONTP	

*Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing*

This bill requires certain employers, including, but not limited to, state agencies, to annually submit wage data reports regarding employee gender, race and ethnicity to the Maine Human Rights Commission.

**LD 507      An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOORE D DESCHAMBAULT S		

This bill amends the definition of "overcompensation" by an employer to include compensation in the form of paid leave. It changes the maximum amount an employer can withhold from an employee's pay to recover overcompensation from 10 percent to five percent. It prohibits an employer from recovering more than the amount of overcompensation paid to an employee in the three years preceding the discovery of the overcompensation. The bill also specifies that the section of law regarding overcompensation by employers that includes these provisions does not limit or affect an employee's general civil remedies against an employer.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 522      An Act To Prohibit the Imposition by Municipalities of General Restrictions on Rents and Rental Properties      Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STROM S POULIOT M	ONTP OTP	

This bill prohibits towns, cities, plantations, village corporations and counties providing municipal services in the unorganized territory of their county from adopting ordinances regulating the rent that may be charged for a rental property, requiring registration of rental properties or imposing fees specific to rental properties.

**LD 567      An Act To Create a Universal Basic Income      Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SYLVESTER M		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact measures designed to establish a universal basic income for residents of the State.